CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

SECRET

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Phosphorus and Aluminum Production at EK Bitterfeld

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The red phosphorus production plant at EK Bitterfeld was dismantled in 1945 and rebuilt in 1952. At present the plant produces both red and yellow phosphorus from Russian phosphates. Total annual phosphorus production amounts to 1,550 tons. The daily production of 500 - 600 kilograms of red phosphorus goes to Russia; daily production of 6 - 7 tons of yellow phosphorus is shipped to the Piesteritz nitrogen plant. Coke used in the treating (reduction) of phosphates comes from Zeitzhain, silica from Leipzig-Plagwitz. 25X1

2. The basic monthly wage for workers in the phosphorus plant averages about 500 DM. The hourly rate is 1.41 DM plus 15 percent hardship pay. The monthly production norm of 130 tons until recently fulfilled with 150 percent was to be raised 10 percent. Only a 2½ - 3 percent increase could be achieved in yellow phosphorus production. Maximum norm fulfillment will not to exceed 140 percent. In recent months, however, norm fulfillment reached 180 percent. Hardship pay was reduced from 15 percent to 10 percent. The only medical care given the workers is a monthly dental inspection.

3. The graphite works of EK Bitterfeld has a labor force of 150 men. Here carbon electrodes from Siemens-Plania are graphitized. These electrodes are used in the aluminum plant at Bitterfeld. Aluminum production has been proceeding for some time in four sheds of the #1 works. Production at the #2 works was commenced in mid-1954 in one shed. During peak hours the high electric power consumption of the aluminum works forces a dampening of the phosphorus ovens.

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